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COLUMBIA, OUR NEW CUP DEFENDER, LAUNCHED.

IS NOW SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHED.

The Occasion Marred by the Killing of a Boy and the Injury of Two Others Through a Flashlight Explosion.

Yacht Is Christened by Mrs. C. Iselin as It Slides Into the Water in a Steel Cradle After Dark.

Many Prominent Society Personages Witness the Launching, and a Number of Yachts Welcome the New Comer.

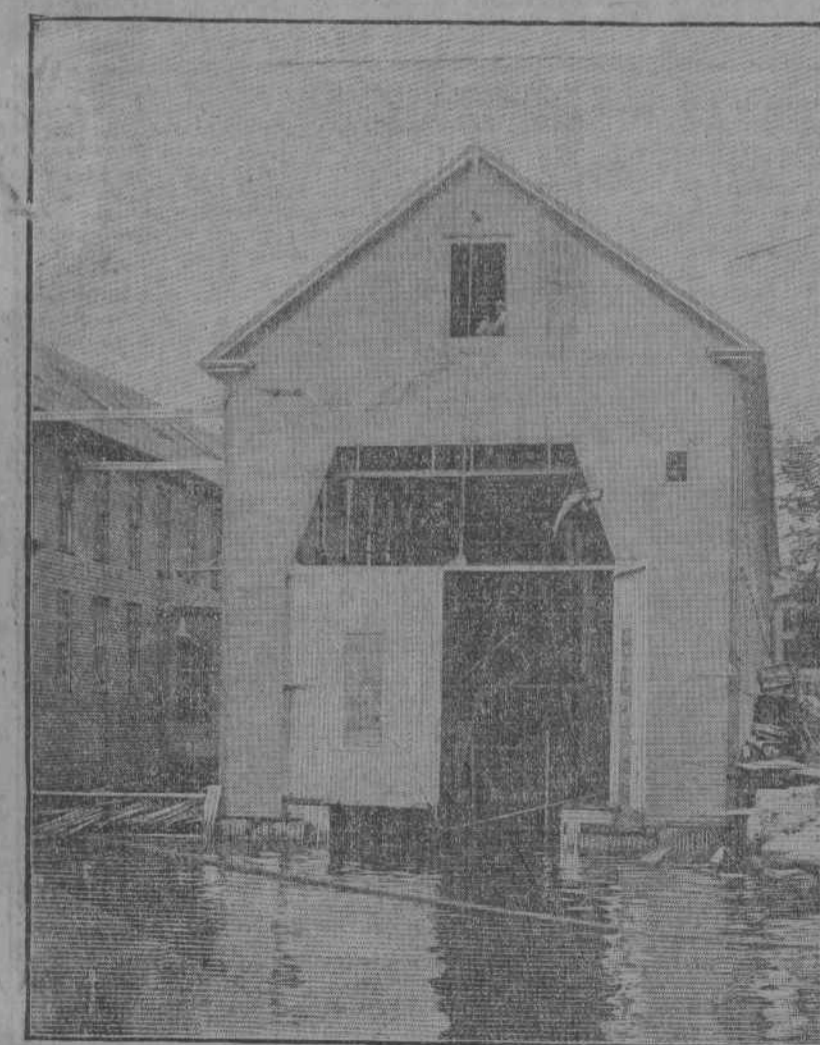
Dimensions of Columbia.
Length over all..... 131 ft.
On water line..... 89 ft. 3 in.
Beam..... 24 ft. 2 in.
Draft..... 10 ft. 10 in.
Length of mainmast..... 107 ft. 5 in.
Mainmast from deck to top..... 77 ft.
Mainmast from deck to top..... 149 ft. 8 in.
Mainmast from deck to top..... 69 ft.
Mainmast from deck to top..... 38 ft.
Mainmast from deck to top..... 65 ft.
Mainmast from deck to top..... 73 ft.
Mainmast from deck to top..... 13,400 sq. ft.
Mainmast from deck to top..... 90 tons.

Bristol, R. I., June 10.—With an American Yacht ensign fluttering under the rays of the St. Michael's searchlight, the Columbia—new gem of the ocean—the yacht which all true patriots hope will successfully defend the America's Cup, was launched from the Herreshoff Company's yard here at 8:10 tonight.

Mrs. C. Oliver Iselin, the wife of the new yacht's managing owner, performed the christening ceremonies and broke the customary bottle of champagne over the cup defender's sharp prow as the yacht



Mrs. C. Oliver Iselin, Who Christened the Yacht.
As the new cup defender slid into the waters of Narragansett Bay last evening this lady broke a bottle of champagne over the ship's bow.



The House from Which the Columbia Was Launched.

slid into the water of Narragansett Bay. There was a large crowd present, including a number of well-known society people from New York, Newport, Providence and Boston. Only a select few and a couple of hundred outsiders, who were permitted on the north and south piers at the last minute, were allowed in the Herreshoff yard. This made little difference to the newspaper men, who were either perched on favorable vantage points on land or in boats off the end of the slip.

Launched in a Cradle.
Unlike most ceremonies of this character, the Columbia, instead of plunging swiftly down the ways, as is usually the case, was gently but quickly lowered into the bay on a steel cradle, which ran down an inclined railway into the water.

As the Columbia slid down the ways her progress was marked by a score of more or less explosions and blinding flashes of light. Certainly the flash-light photographs received no help from the Herreshoffs, who put every obstacle in their way by means of boats with colored lights.

Unhappily the defender's christening four years ago, when the yacht stuck on the ways and refused to move for thirty-six hours, tonight's launching was in every way successful and the Columbia was about in eight minutes. The only unfortunate incident of the day occurred in the morning when William Young, a veteran vessel inspector of Providence, was stricken with apoplexy in the Herreshoff works. He was immediately removed to Nat Herreshoff's home, but the doctors saw there was no hope of his recovery.

How Society Was Represented.
Among the more prominent people at the launching were Mr. and Mrs. C. Oliver Iselin and their four children; Mr. and Mrs. W. Butler Dineen, Jr., and a small party of friends, who came over from Newport on the Defender; Herbert C. Louder of Boston; Woodbury Kim, of Rough Rider fame; Newbury D. Thorne, F. W. J. Hunt, Arthur Iselin and Ernest Staples and J. V. S. Oddie and Colonel Goddard.

SAYS HER HUSBAND TRIED TO KILL HER

Mrs. Frank D. Higbee's Allegations in Her Suit for Divorce.

Chicago, Ill., June 10.—Frank D. Higbee, said to be a close friend of President McKinley and other persons prominent in Government circles, is made defendant in a suit for divorce filed in the Superior Court by his wife, Elizabeth B. Higbee. She charges that he has been guilty of infidelity and that he failed properly to support her, although he is in receipt of a monthly income ranging from \$350 to \$1,000.

The complainant also asserts that she defendant attempted to take her life by administering poison to her. In the bill the wife describes her husband as a "notorious dead beat who is absolutely ignorant of honesty, who associates himself with prominent persons and deprives them of their property and to procure means and credit to speculate and trade by means of his influential and prominent associates."

Mr. Higbee lives in New York at the Marlborough Hotel. He has concession from the Board of Directors of the World's Exposition for the exhibition of a statue of pure gold to be representative of a model American woman. Maude Adams, now playing at Powers's Theatre, has been selected. It is said, as the model for the piece, and during her former engagement here negotiations were begun to secure her consent. It is probable Miss Adams will accept.

Mr. Higbee was a juror appointed by the directors of the World's Fair to award diplomas to exhibitors at the exposition in 1893. At that time, it is alleged, his conduct called forth an investigation on the part of the officials of the fair.

He was also the promoter of the selection of Montauk Point for a camp for the soldiers returning from the Spanish-American War. The defendant is also said to be largely interested in the Dry Tortugas boom and kindred enterprises originating in Wall Street.

Mrs. Higbee alleges that on account of the conduct of her husband she has been compelled to support herself, and for that purpose has embarked in the broom-making business at some place which she refuses to designate.

The complainant and defendant were united in marriage on May 10, 1893, and lived together until November 15, 1896.

ALDERMAN SIEFKE IS DEAD.

Intestinal Trouble Caused the Death of This Well-Known Man.

Alderman Henry Siefke, of the Ninth Assembly District, died yesterday afternoon at the Roosevelt Hospital, to which he was taken recently, suffering from an intestinal trouble.

Mr. Siefke was born in 1847 in the Sixteenth Ward, which has always been his home. After a public school education he entered a law office, and from that went into the grocery business, and finally began to speculate in real estate, with varying success.

CHOATE SQUELCHES "HIS OWN JESTS."

Collection of Alleged Wit-ticisms Suppressed at His Request.

WAS TO AMUSE LONDON

Will M. Clemens Conceived the Idea of This Little Brochure.

MOSS-GROWN JOKES ALSO.

The Ambassador Is Good-Natured, but Draws the Line at Being Made to Father "Chesnuts."

"THE MODERN JOE MILLER." The Choate Story Book. With biography of Hon. JOS. H. CHOATE. 12mo. TWENTY-FIVE CENTS. Now ready.

London, June 10.—Ambassador Choate need not worry over the proposed issuance of a volume called "Joe Choate's Jest Book," which was originally published in America. He appealed to Messrs. Sands, who were to have put the book out here, and they have killed the edition.

Whenever a man jumps into prominence Will M. Clemens, of New York and Keokuk, Ia., "takes his pen in hand and writes a book about the celebrity. In the course of his life Mr. Clemens has expended more state jokes alleged to have been uttered by prominent men than anybody living. He did not write "Joe Miller's Jest Book," but he did write "Famous Funny Fellows," "The Deane Story Book," "The Mark Twain Story Book," "The Kipling Story Book" and various others.

When Mr. Choate was appointed Ambassador to England Mr. Clemens issued the volume about him which England was threatened with until Mr. Choate, in dilemma, begged the publishers to refrain. A few samples of the jokes may explain Mr. Choate's anxiety to keep the reading public of England away from the brilliant production of Mr. Clemens. How is this one, for instance?

Mr. Choate went into a restaurant and asked what they had for dinner. "Everything," roared the waiter. "Bring it in," was Mr. Choate's reply. "One order of hash!" yelled the waiter, and Mr. Choate fainted.

Here is another witicism calculated to make our English cousins laugh for two or three days if you say it quick: "Now," said Mr. Choate, glancing up admiringly at the ladies' gallery at Delmonico's, alms with lovely women, "and I understand that the Scripture phrase means, 'The maddest man a little lower than the angels.'"

Still another gem of wit and humor is as follows:

Mr. Choate was embarrassed only once in his long legal career. That was when, in a New York court room, a large, round and graceful black woman, for whom he was a frequent case, ran at him to bestow a thanked kiss on his lips.

Scrape the moss from this one and you may perhaps recognize it: "A pompous young man hustled into his office. 'This is Mr. Choate?' 'Yes,' responded the distinguished lawyer, with his hand on his forehead. 'Take a chair, sir,' said Choate, with a wave of his hand.

"My father was a cousin of Bishop Wilberforce, and I"—"Take two chairs," said Mr. Choate.

Here are some of the star pieces in the book:

One of his wittiest sayings was made over a private dinner table, at which he and Mrs. Choate were guests. Some one inquired of him who he would like to be if he could not be himself. He paused a few seconds, as if thinking over the list of the world's celebrities, and then his eye rested on his wife. "If," he answered, "I could not be myself, I should like to be Mrs. Choate's second husband."

Choate is a brave man. In the Supreme Court, General term, when he was arguing so important case, Chief Justice Van Brunt wheeled around in his chair and began a chat with Justice Andrews. Mr. Choate ceased speaking. Justice Van Brunt turned and looked at him.

"You know," said Mr. Choate, "I have just forty minutes in which to make my final argument. I shall need not only every second of that time to do it justice, but I shall also need some time to catch my breath and get my wits about me."

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FREE SILVER DEMOCRATS MAY BAR OUT TAMMANY.

National Committee Will Be Asked to Adopt Resolution That All Delegates Must Reaffirm Chicago Platform.

Chicago, June 10.—The meeting of the National Democratic Committee, which is to be held in Chicago, July 20, promises to attract leading Democrats from every State in the Union.

It is understood that the committee will be asked to adopt a resolution, which will practically bar out Tammany from participation in the convention. The resolution is to be adopted by State convention that fail to reaffirm the Chicago platform.

John C. Sheehan, former leader of Tammany Hall, is coming in this request, of friends of Mr. Bryan. Mr. Sheehan's real purpose is to obtain, if possible, encouragement from the silver leaders, and to secure the support of the silver Republicans. Senator Teller, of Colorado, ex-Congressman Towne, of Minnesota, and other distinguished leaders of the silver Republican party have been invited to attend the convention.

HEADLESS AND LIMBLESS BODY INDICATING MURDER FOUND



Crescent Club House, from which the Floating Trunk Was Sighted.

John Brennan, of the Crescent Athletic Club, at Bay Ridge, saw something white out at sea, and by means of a telescope ascertained that it was the body of a man being borne in shore by the tide. He notified the police, who secured the mutilated body.



Headless and Limbless Trunk. The black portions of the above diagram show the parts of the body which are missing.

BIG DEAL ON IN NEW JERSEY LINES

All Trolley Roads in Northern Counties Under One Control.

By the foreclosure sale of the New Jersey Electric Railway Company at Secaucus yesterday, the consolidation of all the electric roads in Northern New Jersey is believed to be assured. The "White Line," as the road sold yesterday is called locally, runs from Hoboken to Lincroft; but the company also controls the stock of and operates under leases, the Paterson, Passaic and Rutherford, the Jersey City, Hoboken and Rutherford and the Paterson Central Electric Railway systems, about twenty-six miles in all.

Chandler W. Kiker, who bought in the property at \$1,500,000, is expected to transfer it to the company which has just been organized in Newark by the Stanley syndicate, which proposes to consolidate the newly acquired lines with the North Jersey Street Railway, the Orange and Passaic Valley and the North Hudson systems.

When the bondholders of the White Line saw the stock of that company passing into the Stanley Syndicate's hands they brought suit in the United States Court for the Third District of New Jersey for foreclosure under the mortgage, and Daniel Young was made receiver. The Court fixed the upset price at yesterday's sale at \$1,000,000, and other bidders advanced the price until Mr. Kiker's offer of 50 per cent advance prevailed.

A. J. CASSATT GOES TO WORK.

Meets Officials of the Pennsylvania and Gets in Touch.

Philadelphia, June 10.—President Alexander J. Cassatt, of the Pennsylvania Railroad, who succeeds the late Frank Thompson, met the officials of the road to-day and placed himself in touch with the departments.

Throughout the day Mr. Cassatt was the recipient of congratulations. Assistants to the president, Samuel R. B. Williams, A. Patton and E. T. Postelwaite spent some time in his private office.

Mutilated Trunk Was Found Floating Off Bay Ridge and Was Secured When Borne in Shore by the Tide.

Flesh Had Been Cut by a Sharp Instrument, and the Bones Seemed to Have Been Chopped in Two.

ANOTHER headless body mystery is taxing the ingenuity and cleverness of the police.

The naked trunk of a man, headless and with limbs severed below the knee, was found floating off Bay Ridge yesterday and brought to shore.

There were no signs of violence on the body besides the mutilation of the amputations.

The flesh had evidently been cut with a sharp knife, and then the bones were severed with a blunt instrument, such as a butcher's hatchet or axe.

No means of identifying the body have been found.

THE ghastly evidence of what the police of the Borough of Brooklyn believe to have been a brutal murder was found in the water off Bay Ridge shortly after 8 o'clock yesterday morning in the mutilated trunk of a man.

The body was dismembered just below both knees, and the trunk was severed about two inches above the lower end of the breastbone.

There are no marks on the body which will lead to an identification, and until the head or other section of the body is found the police believe that it will be impossible to find out who the man was, how he met his death and the trunk came to be floating in the river.

The only mark of violence on the body besides those caused by the mutilation was a small puncture in the groin, which it is evident from examination, came in a perfectly natural way.

The body was in such condition that it is impossible, so the surgeon who inspected it said, to tell positively whether the cutting up was done before or after death, but it is believed that the mutilations of the body were made to conceal the graver crime of murder.

John Brennan, the boatkeeper of the Crescent Athletic Club, which has a club house and boat house at the foot of Eighty-fifth street, Brooklyn, made the discovery yesterday morning. While on the boat in front of the boat house, getting some boats ready for a crew, he saw something white bobbing up and down on the waves about a quarter of a mile off, in a southerly direction, toward Staten Island.

Thought It Was a Dog.

From the long distance it could not be told what the object was, but from its motion it was supposed by Mr. Brennan to be a white dog or some other animal trying to make the shore.

Mr. Brennan thought it might be one of the dogs belonging to one of the club members, and to settle the question he got on the telephone to look at the boat. Then he discovered it was what he took to be the body of a man without a head.

The body was being borne swiftly on the last of the flood tide toward the boat club, and Mr. Brennan went to the clubhouse and notified the police of the Eighty-sixth street station of what he had seen.

When he returned to the boat the body was not more than 150 feet away, and he could see that it had been horribly mutilated. By the time that Patrolman Johnson, of the Eighty-sixth street station, reached the boat house the body had floated by it and was being carried by the tide toward shore.

Policeman Johnson went after the floating trunk in a boat, and caught up with it near the foot of Seventy-fourth street. He tied the trunk around the right leg, close to the groin, and towed the body to shore and drew it up in the sand.

Chief of Police Driscoll, of the Eighty-sixth street station, when he learned that the body had been found, ordered Deputy Chief MacKellar, and then went over to the shore with Detective Taylor, where they found the trunk. The trunk was found in the water near the foot of Eighty-sixth street station, and it was believed that the man was either a trained athlete or one used to heavy manual labor, presumably lifting.

In the Water About 24 Hours.

Captain Driscoll, during his many years of experience in handling bodies which had been thrown up on the shore, has become familiar with the length of time that bodies have been in the water, judging from their appearance, and, in his opinion, the trunk had not been in the water more than twenty-four hours before it was found.

After the examination the trunk was removed to the Brooklyn Morgue, and it will be preserved in the hope that it will may turn up some evidence which will lead to the finding of the other sections of the body and its identification.

Deputy Chief MacKellar believes that it is not unlikely that the other sections of the body were thrown into the river at or about the same time as the trunk, and at once ordered a search to be made for them. Two small patrol boats were sent to Fort Hamilton, and policemen were directed to patrol the beach from Brooklyn to Coney Island Point to look for the legs and the head.

The patrol boats ran over to the Staten Island shore on the north and south sides, also toward the Jersey shore and along the entire water front from the Thirty-ninth street ferry to Fort Hamilton. All those who had been engaged in the search for the trunk were ordered to throw any light upon the case.

Captain Driscoll decided that it would be useless to hunt for any other parts of the body during the night, and that part of the investigation was put off until to-day.

All the police within the limits of Greater New York and of Jersey City and Hoboken were notified of the finding of the body, and their assistance was asked to aid in clearing up the mystery. At a late hour the reports which had been received at Police Headquarters in Brooklyn from the various places which had been communicated with told nothing to aid the local police in their investigations.

Fort Hamilton Soldier Missing.

Captain Driscoll and Detective Taylor went to Fort Hamilton, made inquiry among the soldiers and learned that there had been a row among some of the men on Friday night, and that one of the soldiers had been broken by a dull pointed

Continued on Page Forty.